Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of POs in Rented Bldgs.
28.	Patnegiri	72
29.	Sangli	73
30.	Sindhudurg	55

Out of above 4 are Head Post Offices and others are Sub Offices.

Opening of New Post and Telegraph Offices in Adivasi Districts of Maharashtra

106. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been a long pending demand for opening of the Post and Telegraph offices for the convenience of the people living in Adivasi districts of Maharashtra;

(b) how many post offices are working for the benefit of each such Adivasi district in Maharashtra; and

(c) the criteria for opening of post offices in far flung areas of Adivasi districts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR):

(a) *Department of Posts*:

Yes, Sir, there have been long pending demand for opening Post Offices in some Adivasi areas of Maharashtra.

Department of Telecom:

There has been no demand for opening of telegraph offices in Adivasi districts of Maharashtra.

(b) The number of post offices working in the Adivasi districts of Maharashtra are given in the enclosed Statement-I. (*See* below).

(c) The criteria for opening post offices in tribal areas is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Number of Post Offices Working for the Benefit of each such Adivasi District in Maharashtra

S.No.	Name of District	Number of Post Offices working for the Adivasi areas
1.	Dhule	31
2.	Nandurbar	112
3.	Nanded	109
4.	Nasik	103
5.	Thane	214
6.	Raigad	4
	TOTAL	573

Statement-II

Norms for opening extra Departmental Branch Post Offices in Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas.

1. Population:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

2. Distance:

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kms. - The minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

3. Anticipated Income:

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.